

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention can reliably prevent removal of a disk unit by a person other than an authentic user while enabling sharing the disk unit between a plurality of users. An HDD unit (20) detachable from an information processing apparatus incorporates a memory which stores user information for user authentication, and a CPU which performs authentication processing by using the user information. If eject of the HDD unit (20) is designated, the HDD unit (20) executes authentication processing on the basis of authentication information input from the information processing apparatus in which the HDD unit (20) is mounted, and the user information stored in the memory.

The HDD unit (20) notifies the information processing apparatus whether to permit/inhibit eject processing. If eject processing is permitted, the information processing apparatus ejects the HDD unit (20) by using a lock mechanism (21), motor controller (23), and the like.